

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2006**

The Emergency Management Advisory Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2006 at 8:05 A.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Advisory Council Members present were: Chairman Jimmie Kesterson, Vice Chairman Nathan Miller, Mike Kyger, Dave Reagan, Garry Smith, County Councilmember Ronald L. Fruitt, and Commissioner Ruth E. Shedd. Also present: Director Mark Kirby, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr. (Deputy Director Tim Batta and Advisory Council Members Carol Shelby and John Withers were absent.)

Martin Webb, TEMA Technician, was also present.

Chairman Jimmie Kesterson called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Councilmember Fruitt moved to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2006 Meeting as distributed, seconded by Commissioner Shedd; motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: Jimmie Kesterson

Reflecting on September 11th, Chairman Kesterson stated that what TEMA is doing is important. Continued training is necessary and he thinks TEMA is headed down the right road.

➔ Advisory Council Member John Walker entered the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mark Kirby

Equipment Lists

As requested, an inventory of TEMA equipment was distributed. Some of the equipment is passed to other agencies in the County but ownership is retained by TEMA.

District 4 Tabletop Exercise

The District 4 Tabletop Exercise will be held from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. on Thursday, September 21, 2006 at Burtsfield School Elementary School in West Lafayette. Chairman Kesterson noted that Identification will be required for participants and wondered if TEMA volunteers have verifiable identification. Director Kirby said they don't yet but will have because they have the equipment. After instruction on how to use it, they are working toward making badges.

2006 Grants

- TEMA will receive approximately \$28,000 to purchase laptop computers onto which GIS data will be loaded and then distributed to local public safety entities.
- Between now and February 2007, TEMA will receive \$50,000 to spend on an exercise.
- To help Director Kirby coordinate the district approach, TEMA will receive \$50,000 to hire a District Planning Council Administrator. He is not sure how this will be implemented.

- TEMA will receive \$150,000 to upgrade the Mobile Command Center with a satellite phone system, an upgraded rear camera, and additional portable radios. Because they want TEMA to be fully operational in the field without outside support, there will be sufficient funding to purchase a trailer to carry additional equipment.

Chairman Kesterson asked if the issues with the Mobile Command Center manufacturer have been resolved. Director Kirby responded that all issues have been resolved except the rear camera which the manufacturer now admits is a low-end camera. He said that should no longer be an issue when the camera is upgraded.

2007 Budget

Preliminary approval has been given to the \$40,000 request for zoning and repairs to sirens for 2007 as well as an increase in the Garage line item to cover rising fuel costs.

Volunteers

Some TEMA volunteers are working as employees of Purdue University for traffic control during home football games. They are also scheduled to hold with traffic control at the Feast of the Hunter's Moon that will be held on October 7th and 8th.

Avian Flu

The big emphasis continues for preparations for a flu pandemic which Director Kirby thinks could be a grater threat than terrorism. A table top exercise will be held in October to coordinate preparations with other entities.

Radio Re-band

Nextel received permission from the FCC to move, at their expense, all 800 Mhz radios in the nation to a new frequency to expand their network. All radio equipment has been inventoried and any that will not work on the new frequency will be replaced. Tippecanoe County was selected as one of two pilot sites nationally, and RaComm, our local Motorola dealer, is working on the first round of local changes which he expects will be complete within the next 45 days.

Zoning of Sirens

Commissioner Shedd reported a complaint from a citizen who questioned the need for zoning sirens. She wondered about the importance of accomplishing this. Director Kirby responded that the #1 complaint TEMA receives is when all sirens in the County are activated because of an occurrence in only one area of the County. He thinks zoning will add credibility to the warning. Chairman Kesterson agreed and said TEMA has been working toward this for years.

CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team)

Another CERT class has just been completed. Director Kirby said TEMA Secretary Brenda Melville, who heads the program, and her volunteers are doing an excellent job.

Siren Test

There were no failures during the monthly siren test held on Saturday, September 2nd. The new siren has been installed at Wainwright Middle School and the siren, located in Romney, is currently rotating. Mr. Miller asked

Director Kirby how he plans to zone the sirens. Director Kirby said they will probably be zoned north, central, and south.

COMMUNICATION'S COMMITTEE: Dave Reagan, Chairman

Mr. Reagan said he would like for the committee to meet a couple of times each month before the end of the year to update the goals. He said new goals will need to be established since several of the current goals have either been met or are in the process of being met. Chairman Kesterson asked Mr. Reagan to e-mail the current goals to Advisory Council Members along with a brief update regarding their status.

CIVIL AIR PATROL: Dave Reagan, Member

As a member of the Civil Air Patrol, Mr. Reagan announced that an airplane has been re-assigned to the Lafayette area. He said they would like a mobile radio for the plane for an airborne repeater system to allow communication in remote areas. Mr. Reagan also said they would like to use TEMA's power system during their mock exercise scheduled for this week-end.

Director Kirby asked Mr. Reagan to provide TEMA with the criteria to utilize the airplane during TEMA incidents.

HAZ-MAT TEAM: Technician Martin Webb

Mr. Webb reported the Haz-Mat Team responded to a diesel fuel and engine oil spill in a waterway following a semi wreck at the 188 mile marker on I-65. He said the Team set buoys in the waterway and IDEM took care of the rest of the spill.

Director Kirby reported that the De-con Trailer will be in Texas for two weeks for replacement of the floor paint. He said they are asking for a replacement trailer while the work is being done.

MEETINGS

Commissioner Shedd wondered if the Advisory Council was going to follow the suggestion to hold bi-monthly meetings. Chairman Kesterson responded that bi-monthly meetings were suggested in the study conducted by Christopher Burke but he prefers staying on the monthly meeting schedule. He said this issue can be discussed next month.

The next meeting of the TEMA Advisory Council will be held at 8:00 A.M., Tuesday, October 10, 2006 in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building.

ADJOURNMENT

- Upon the motion by Councilmember Fruitt and the second of Mr. Kyger; the meeting adjourned.

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor